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FCC Mail Room

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Wright Alternative Rulemaking Proposal
C.C. Docket 96-128;

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I live just outside Raymond, Hinds county, Mississippi where I receive collect calls from My son Joshua who is in the Delta Correctional Facility in Greenwood, MS. Currently I pay 5.50 for a fifteen minute call.

The costs of these calls create a very real problem.

I realize 5.50 does not sound exorbitant but due to the fact I am now single this cost does add up when one must take in the fact I must have a landline in order to accept Collect calls, and a few other necessary cost associated with having a Landline.

My telephone bill runs well over 100.00 a month. Due to health issues, and of course skyrocketing cost just to live a half way decent life the calls from my son do tend to add up. WE do limit our calls to once a week and Holidays unless something major is happening with him, which can and does happen. For instance, his first year incarcerated he was moved six times from facility to facility.

Of course in addition to the commission to the Facility, I am charged a billing fee from the telephone company and also the billing company used by each facility and oh yessssss, of course the taxes, so in actuality I am paying more than 5.50 per call.

EACH time he is moved, it's a whole new learning experience when it comes to the telephone calls, as some facilities use different companies especially the Privately owned facilities such as DCF under contract with the State of Mississippi.

The primary reason this rate is so high is because of the commissions paid by prison phone Service providers to correctional facilities. I believe these commissions are an unfair tax on Families of inmates, including many who cannot afford these outrageous (or excessive, or exorbitant, or painfully high, or whatever words you believe best describes the) rates.

It is my understanding that a recent cost study submitted by prison phone service companies has determined a "fair rate" that eliminates commissions, covers legitimate costs and provides a reasonable return for prison phone companies while dramatically reducing call rates.

Our hope is that the FCC will prohibit the payment of commissions and establish a "fair rate" for all intrastate and inter-state calls, as well as require less expensive prepaid or debit calling in all correctional facilities.

Please make sure fair rates will be made available to all inmate families everywhere.

Thank you and God Bless.

Sincerely yours,
A.L. Martz

No. of Copies rec'd _____
List ABCDE _____

Lynn Martz
2162 Airport Rd. #B
Raymond, MS 39154

Receivables & Sector

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Maclere H. Dotch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

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